



Pleanáil agus Faisnéis Straitéiseach d'Fhórsa
Ionad Gnó Shoirid
Bóthar Bhaile Anraí, Sord.
Co. Átha Cliath, K67D8H0
Strategic Workforce Planning & Intelligence
Health Service Executive
Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road
Swords,
Co. Dublin, K67D8H0

5 October 2021

Deputy Róisín Shortall

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2

PQ 45560/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent senior podiatrists and whole-time equivalent basic grade podiatrists employed by the Health Service Executive in 2018, 2019 and 2020, by CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question in relation to staffing numbers which was forwarded to the Health Services Executive (HSE) by the Department of Health for direct reply.

The Deputy will be interested to note that, at 30th August 2021, there were 128,283 whole-time equivalent (WTE), equating to 146,891 personnel, directly employed in the provision of Health and Social Care Services by the HSE and the various Section 38 hospitals and agencies and of which 79 WTE (109 personnel) were chiropodists and podiatrists. Details, by grade for the dates requested by the Deputy, together with the latest available figures (Aug 2021) are as follows:

Chiropodists & Podiatrists by Grade	WTE Dec 2018	WTE Dec 2019	WTE Dec 2020	WTE Aug 2021	WTE change since Dec 18	% change since Dec 18	Headcount Aug 2021
Total Chiropodists & Podiatrists	69.9	71.6	79.8	84.6	+14.7	+21%	109
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist	1.4	2.0	2.4	5.5	+4.1	+289%	7
Chiropodist/ Podiatrist, Senior	51.5	52.4	61.0	62.0	+10.5	+20%	25
Chiropodist/ Podiatrist	16.9	17.1	16.4	17.1	+0.1	+1%	77

The Deputy will be interested to note that the number of directly employed Chiropodists & Podiatrists has increased by 21% (+14.7 WTE) over the period covered by this response.

Details for both acute (39% of the total) and community services (61%) by Community Healthcare area and grade, as requested, are as follows:

Chiropodists & Podiatrists by Hospital Group & Community Healthcare Organisation	WTE Dec 2018	WTE Dec 2019	WTE Dec 2020	WTE Aug 2021	WTE change since Dec 18	% change since Dec 18	Headcount Aug 2021
Total Chiropodists & Podiatrists	69.9	71.6	79.8	84.6	+14.7	+21%	109
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.1	+1.6	+115%	4
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	6.6	10.0	9.9	8.7	+2.2	+33%	11
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	22.2	22.2	24.6	21.5	-0.7	-3%	27
Acute Services	30.2	34.2	36.8	33.3	+3.2	+10%	42
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	9.3	8.8	9.3	13.3	+4.0	+43%	16
CHO 1	9.3	8.8	9.3	13.3	+4.0	+43%	16
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist				2.0	+2.0		2
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	1.7	1.6	1.6	2.9	+1.2	+74%	5
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	5.3	5.4	5.8	5.8	+0.5	+8%	7
CHO 2	7.0	7.0	7.5	10.6	+3.7	+52%	14
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	2.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	-1.0	-50%	1
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	3.5	4.5	5.5	4.6	+1.1	+32%	5
CHO 3	5.5	5.4	6.5	5.6	+0.1	+2%	6
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.7	+0.7	+23%	5
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	4.5	4.5	5.5	6.7	+2.2	+50%	8
CHO 4	7.5	6.5	7.5	10.4	+2.9	+39%	13
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	0.4	0.5			-0.4	-100%	
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.5	+0.5	+47%	2
CHO 5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.5	+0.1	+4%	2
Chiropodist, Clinical Specialist				0.5	+0.5		1
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	1.2	0.5	1.0	0.5	-0.7	-57%	1
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	1.2	1.2	3.2	2.2	+1.0	+84%	3
CHO 6	2.3	1.7	4.2	3.2	+0.9	+36%	5
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	0.8				-0.8	-100%	
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	+1.0	+200%	2
CHO 7	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.5	+0.2	+17%	2
Chiropodist/Podiatrist	1.4	1.3	0.3	0.3	-1.1	-82%	2
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	3.1	3.3	3.8	2.8	-0.3	-10%	4
CHO 8	4.5	4.6	4.2	3.0	-1.5	-33%	6
Chiropodist/Podiatrist		0.4	0.6		+0.0		
Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Senior	1.0	0.6	1.0	2.2	+1.2	+120%	3
CHO 9	1.0	1.0	1.6	2.2	+1.2	+120%	3
Community Services	39.7	37.4	43.0	51.3	+11.6	+29%	67

Source: Health Service Personnel Census

Note 1: Health Sector staffing figures relate to direct employment levels as returned through the Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC) for the public health sector (HSE & Section agencies)

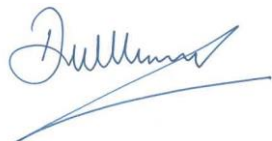
Note 2: Figures relating to service levels are expressed as whole-time equivalents (WTE) in order to take account of part-time working

The Deputy will be aware that for many grades of Health & Social Care Professionals, including chiropody & podiatry (and also, for example therapy professions) services are available in the private sector. I should also point out that in addition to the public chiropody services delivered directly by the HSE; Services are provided by other Providers funded by the HSE through the Chiropody Treatment Card for not only Older Persons but also in particular Diabetic Care, which are additional to the number shown in the above report.

The HSE conducts a monthly census of public health services employment across all services covering the HSE and Section 38 Voluntary Hospitals & Agencies. The Health Services Personnel Census (HSPC) is the official employment count for the public health sector and is routinely published at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/workforce-reporting/>.

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Des Williams', with a long, sweeping underline stroke extending to the right.

Des Williams

General Manager